interconnecting Eastern, Western and Northern Regions. The southern Grid would be linked to the Eastern & Western Grids through strong 400 KV HVDC links at various places such as Jeypore -Gajuwaka and Talcher-Kolar, Chandrapur-Ramagundam. Inter-regional transmission capacity of the proposed National Grid would increase to about 30,000 MW by 2011-12.

(c) and (d) The total investment required for the central transmission system including regional as well as inter-regional system, in the next 10 years, is estmated to be of the order of Rs. 77,000 crores. This amount is proposed to be raised from various sources including internal resources of POWER GRID, from beneficiary utilities as a part of transmission tariff, budgetary support under plan schemes, market borrowings and private sector investment in transmission.

The Electricity Laws were amended in 1998 identifying transmission as an activity distinct from generation and providing for private sector participation in transmission. Two routes have been envisaged for private sector participation in transmission. The route envisaging 100% fund mobilization by private entrepreneurs is called Independent Private Transmission Company (IPTC) route and the other route envisaging formulation of a Joint Venture Company between Central Transmission Utility (CTU)/State Transmission Utility (STU) and private investor is called Joint Venture (JV) route. POWERGRID, as CTU, has identified one pilot project against each of the above mentioned two routes for private sector participation in transmission. Specific transmission lines associated with Tala Hydro-electric Project in Bhutan are proposed to be taken up under JV route. POWERGRID has signed Shareholders Agreement with M/s. Tata Power for formation of Joint Venture Company. POWERGRID has also identified two 400 KV D/C transmission lines, viz. Bina-Nagda and Nagda-Dehgam under Sipat-I Transmission System for implementation through IPTC route. The selection of bidder on IPTC route is in final stage of processing.

Workshop on Power Reforms Programme

1501. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to spend Rs. 40,000 crore on reforms in the power sector during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, whether ay targets have been set up for expenditure and also obtaining power target;

(c) whether any workshop on power reforms programme was held in the month of January/February, 2003;

(d) if so, the main objective of the workshop; and

(e) to what extent Government is confident of improving power reforms so that targets set are achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, an amount of Rs. 3500 crores have been provided during the current year for power sector reforms under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP). A similar provision has been proposed in the Budget for the year 2003-04

(c) No, Sir.;

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

(e) Under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme, the Government has formulated a six level intervention strategy to erjuvenate the power sector, primarily to make it viable. The main features of this strategy are:

	Issues	Initiatives
National Level	i. Policy issues ii. Legal frame work iii. Standardization iv. Accounting	i. Electricity Bill ii. Committee for standardization iii Accounting Standards
State Level	i. Tariff fixation ii. Unbundling iii. Subsidies& Budgetary support	i. Restructure SEB ii. Remove Cross Subsidy iii. management of Distribution
SEB Level	i Restructuring ii Acconting iii. MIS iv. Erratic frequency	i. Conditions Precedent ii. Implementation of Grid Code iii. TOD metering
Distribution Circle Level	i. Outage reduction i. Loss reduction iii. Reliability iv. Voltage & Accountability	i. 100% Static meters ii. Energy Accounting iiii. Responsibility & accountability for billig and collection iv. Scheme for rewards and punishment

	Issues	Initiatives
Feeder Level	i. Reliability ii. Erratic Voltages iii. Metering & Billing Collection iv. HT/LT Ratio	i. Capacity Building ii. Project Management iii. Profit Center iv. District-wise planning v. Technical upgradation
Consumer Level	i. Metering ii. Compliance of Billing iii. Consumer satisfaction	i. Energy Conservation Act ii. DSM iii. Public Awareness iv. Road Shows v. Penal provision for theft

Targets Achievement in Power Sector

1502. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to answers to Unstarred Questions 1153 and 2289 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th November, 2001 and 7th August, 2002 respectively and to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission recommended to set up task force to analyze/examine the issues related to the performance of the power sector during Ninth Plan to suggest the advance action for the Tenth Plan; and

(b) if so, the progress in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Mid term Appraisal of Ninth Five Year Plan in October, 2000 had recommended that a Task Force may be set up to analyze/examine issues related to the performance of the power sector during Ninth Plan and suggest advance action for the Tenth Plan.

The Working Group on Power for the 10th Plan has taken into account the factors which adversely affected the progress of project implementation during 9th Plan. Effective monitoring mechanisms have now been put in place to ensure timely completion of the targeted projects. Monthly reviews are being undertaken by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and quarterly reviews are being undertaken by Secretary (Power).